

For more information on:

- secondary containment systems
- waste disposal
- waste recycling
- waste reduction
- wastewater disposal

CONTACT

Panhandle Health District

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and visit us

or the

***Idaho Division of
Environmental Quality***

on the web at

www2.state.id.us/phd1

www.deq.state.id.us/waste/waste1.htm



Public Health

***Panhandle Health District
Healthy People in
Healthy Communities***

UNDERSTANDING THE CRITICAL MATERIALS REGULATION



**Aquifer Protection
Program**



***Panhandle Health District
Healthy People in Healthy Communities***

You may have been inspected recently under authority of the Critical Materials Regulation.

What is a critical material?
Simply stated, a critical material is any chemical that, once released to the environment, could contaminate our drinking water supply.

Why is the drinking water supply so vulnerable to contamination?

Our drinking water supply, the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer, lies beneath coarse sands and gravels without any type of natural barriers between the saturated zone (or water table) and the surface of the ground.

Any chemicals that come in contact with the surface of the ground can easily, and quickly, move to the water table.

How will the Critical Materials Regulation (CMR) help protect the Aquifer?

The CMR is designed to provide solutions for two existing concerns:

CONCERN 1 - Lack of chemical information

Solution - Fixed Facilities that use, store, or handle Critical Materials must provide information regarding the names, quantities, uses, and locations of those Critical Materials. This information will help satisfy existing federal reporting requirements and open channels of communication among business, industry, and government agencies.

CONCERN 2 - Improper storage and use of critical materials.

Solution - Critical Materials must not be able to come in contact with the surface of the ground. This is accomplished through the use of secondary containment systems.

The Benefits

- Assure a safe drinking water supply.
- Open channels of communication between industry and government agencies, as well as among government agencies .
- Provide a mechanism for Fixed Facility to satisfy existing chemical reporting requirements they may not be aware of.
- Avoid costly cleanups of spills.
- Provides vital information to agencies that plan for, or respond to, chemical emergencies.
- Assure a “clean bill of health” for property that is being sold or purchased.

